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available to the most recent compilations. The tables not only contain original data but hundreds of percentages, averages, etc., and are given not only for the state as a whole but also for individual counties, for the entire period covered.

In the judgment of the reviewer, this is the most comprehensive piece of work of its kind dealing with an American state; it stands as a fitting monument to Mr. Robinson.

JOHN R. COULTER

Collections of the Minnesota historical society. Volume xv. (St. Paul: Minnesota historical society, 1915. 872 p. \$2.50)

The present volume is a type of *Historical collections* which somewhat contradicts its name. Instead of being a collection of documents as one would expect, it comprises papers and addresses presented before the Minnesota historical society during the past six years, together with memorials of deceased members. With a few exceptions, the papers tend to be of a popular nature. The first paper, which is the most pretentious and scholarly in the volume, relates to "Railroad legislation in Minnesota, 1849 to 1875," by Rasmus S. Saby. This appeared as a separate several years ago; it is a doctoral dissertation containing a detailed history of the origin and early struggles of the railroads of the state, based entirely upon original sources. Mr. Saby's essay is an acceptable contribution to the growing literature in the field of modern industrial history and in the field of state political history. The treatment is unnecessarily long,—many of the facts which impede the narrative could well have been subjected to footnotes or appendix.

Closely allied to the foregoing study is "The five million loan" by William Watts Folwell, which deals with the attempt of the state to secure railroad construction by a loan of credit, and the ultimately successful struggle to prevent repudiation. Then follows a history of "The beginning of railroad building in Minnesota," by John H. Randall, which is, as the title suggests, a history of the construction of the first railroad in the state.

An interesting topic in the volume from the viewpoint of the critical student and the casual reader is "The Kensington rune stone," a report, controversial in its nature, made to the Minnesota historical society by its museum committee. The stone in question, inscribed with runic characters, was found on a farm in Minnesota and purported to chronicle a visit to Minnesota by the Northmen as early as 1362. At the time of the discovery the record was declared fraudulent. In 1908, however, the agitation was revived and resulted in the favorable report printed herewith. In 1911 the stone was taken abroad where it was subjected to criticism by expert Scandinavian runologists and linguists, who branded

it as a fraud. Despite, however the objections of the committee of scholars at the University of Christiana, and of Mr. Flom, who made an extensive study of the matter ("The Kensington rune stone" in *Transactions of the Illinois state historical society for the year 1910*, p. 105 *et seq.*), the museum committee stood by its original report. It is only fair, nevertheless, to record that the report includes a summary of the objections raised against it.

Some other articles of less note in the volume are "Narrative of the Sioux war," by Marion P. Satterlee, "The public lands and school fund of Minnesota," by Samuel G. Iverson, "Northern Minnesota boundary surveys in 1822 to 1826, under the treaty of Ghent," by William E. Culkin, "History of the parks and grounds of St. Paul," by Lloyd Peabody, and "Reminiscences of Minnesota politics," by Henry A. Castle. The typographical appearance of the volume as a whole is good.

LUCILLE M. ALLEN

Spanish mission churches of New Mexico. By L. Bradford Prince, L.L.D., president of the historical society of New Mexico, president of the society for the preservation of Spanish antiquities, vice president of the national historical society. (Cedar Rapids, Iowa: Torch press, 1915. 373 p. \$1.50)

This book, which may be characterized as belonging to the popular type, was written in order to present a memorial of the ancient missions of New Mexico, and, at the same time, to direct more general attention to the "interesting structures that render the Sunshine State the paradise of the tourist, the antiquarian, and the religious enthusiast." The book is divided into thirty-four chapters. Of these the first four really constitute an historical introduction. The body of the work, containing twenty-nine chapters, is devoted in the main to a discussion of the old Spanish churches of interest in New Mexico. The concluding chapter deals with the Penitentes, "in order," as is stated in the preface, "to include among the illustrations, pictures of the Moradas in which this peculiar religious society holds its meetings."

In the opening chapter a brief comparison is made, from the standpoint of age and historical experience, of the missions of California and New Mexico. The points in the comparison are well taken. But since the missions in California and New Mexico were only two out of several groups of missions on a long but unified frontier, one misses any reference to the missions of Texas and Arizona. This is true also in regard to the mission of Guadalupe del Paso, for, although in Mexico, it was founded by missionaries from New Mexico, and for many years was considered among the missions of that province.

In the three remaining chapters, carrying the historical introduction